

Senate Resolution 102 - Introduced

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 102

BY KOELKER

1 A Resolution designating February 23, annually, as
2 Utility Worker Appreciation Day.

3 WHEREAS, the profession of utility workers is
4 steeped in personal, family, and professional
5 tradition; and

6 WHEREAS, utility workers are often first responders
7 during storms and other catastrophic events, working
8 to make the scene safe for their fellow public safety
9 heroes; and

10 WHEREAS, utility workers work with thousands of
11 volts of electricity high atop power lines 24 hours per
12 day, 365 days a year; and

13 WHEREAS, utility workers keep electricity flowing by
14 working in deep trenches, welding gas lines to seal or
15 make repairs, performing leak detection, and ensuring
16 pipeline integrity to safely deliver natural gas to
17 customers; and

18 WHEREAS, utility workers ensure that our water
19 supply is safe and reliable and that our wastewater is
20 cleaned before re-entering Iowa's waterways; and

21 WHEREAS, utility workers such as wind turbine
22 technicians, power plant operators, line clearance tree
23 trimmers, distributors, and dispatchers work around the
24 clock to keep our generation plants, wind turbines, and
25 solar energy sites operating efficiently and ensuring
26 the flow of energy to businesses, homes, and factories
27 even during the worst disasters; and

28 WHEREAS, utility workers must often work under

1 dangerous conditions far from their families to
2 construct and maintain the energy infrastructure of the
3 state of Iowa, especially during the Iowa derecho in
4 August 2020 and throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and
5 utility workers have continued to maintain the state
6 infrastructure despite all the obstacles with which
7 they are confronted; and

8 WHEREAS, utility workers put their lives on the line
9 every day with little recognition from the community
10 regarding the danger of their work; NOW THEREFORE,

11 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Senate
12 designates February 23, annually, as Utility Worker
13 Appreciation Day, and calls upon the people of Iowa
14 to be particularly mindful of the dangerous work
15 done under extreme conditions day in and day out by
16 these dedicated public safety workers and show their
17 appreciation at every opportunity.